



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Yutaka Yokoyama

Art Unit:

2713

Serial No.:

09/467,812

Examiner:

Unassigned

Filed:

December 20, 1999

Docket:

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For:

APPARATUS FOR AND METHOD

Dated:

August 9, 2001

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the aboveidentified case.

> 1. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application H10-294936, dated November 4, 1998 together with an English language abstract

The reference is cited in an Official Action dated June 12, 2001 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Applicant is submitting a copy of the above-cited reference, together with a translation of the Examiner's comments regarding the reference from the Official Action. The relevance of the references is described in the Official Action.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on August 9, 2001.

Dated: August 9, 2001

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In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the reference is cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the reference is cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul J. Esatto, Jr.

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PJE:cm